MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Have the Government found the Trade Agent useful till now?

PRESIDENT : That is a matter of opinion.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Have the Government ascertained the views of the Chamber of Commerce so far as the Trade Agent at Bombay is concerned?

MR. N. K. PADMAMABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : No.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : May I know whether the Trade Agent, during his tours in Travancore, became acquainted with the indigenous industries in Chirayinkil taluk?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : He might have.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : May I know the important indigenous industries visited by him?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : In Paravur he has visited the S. K. V. coir works.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Paravur is not part of Chirayinkil.

MR. N. K PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : He did not visit Chirayinkil in particular.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Is the member aware that Chirayinkil is an important centre for coir industry?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : Yes.

Trade Agent in Bombay.

104. ❋**MR. T. K. ALEXANDER** (*Kunnatnad I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the amount given to the Trade Agent in Bombay for T. A. charges since he was appointed ;

(*b*) the amount given as salary and commission since he was appointed ; and

(*c*) the value of Travancore goods for which he has secured orders up to date (10-11-1110) ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : (*a*) Rs. 1,829-17-15.

(*b*) Rs. 7,354-0-8.

(*c*) Rs. 13,000-9-5.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*) : In answer to part (*b*), may I know the amount paid to the Agent by way of commission?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : No commission has been paid yet.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*) : But the answer says that the amount paid to him is inclusive of salary and commission? So may I know what is the amount of commission alone paid to him?

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MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): We have not yet settled the amount of commission to be paid to the Agent. All the amounts realised as commission during the last contract with the Trade Agent is for Government and so the trade agent did not get any.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know whether the Director of Industries can give me an idea of the value of the Travancore goods for which orders have been secured by the Trade Agent during the last four months?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): I am not in a position to give this separately.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know whether the figure Rs. 13,000 represents the value of Travancore goods for 16 months *i. e.*, for the period he was in the services of Government?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): Yes.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know the earliest date on which an order was secured by him?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): As soon as he was entertained.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know for a fact whether Government propose to continue the service of the Trade agent because they are satisfiied that his continuance is profitable to the State?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): Yes. The Government are thinking of continuing him under the new agreement. That is, he will have to make up the balance by commission, this will induce him to earn as much commission as possible, which could be got only by securing more orders. His pay has been reduced and he will only get commission to make up his salary.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Apart from the new contract, I wish to know for a fact whether the Government are satisfied with the work of the Trade Agent during the last 16 months.

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): Within such a short period it is not possible for Government to decide the matter. Government will decide on the result of the orders secured by him under the new contract and then decide as to whether he will have to be continued or not.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether the Government can give us any idea of the value of goods for which he will be able to secure orders during the next 12 months?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): He has not given any special idea.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Any general idea at least?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): No.

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MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know the total value of the Travancore goods sold in those markets during the 16 months that preceded the appointment of the Trade Agent ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : I cannot say.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether, in answer to part (*b*) in the T. A. for the Agent's tour, his allowance for the journey from Bombay direct to Travancore in a special car, is also included ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : No, Sir. According to T. S. R., he will be given only the railway fare, even though he comes in his car from Bombay.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : May I know whether the Trade Agent has received any enquiries from merchants of South Travancore ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : I have no information.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know whether the Government are aware that the salary given to the Agent is more than 50 per cent. of the value of the Travancore goods for which he has secured orders ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : Government did not consider so. Otherwise they would not have entered into a fresh contract with him.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know whether it is a fact that the Government have given the Trade Agent as salary and commission more than 50 per cent. of the value of Travancore goods ?

PRESIDENT : But the commission system has not yet begun.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) Is there any provision in the new agreement for dispensing with the services of the Trade Agent in case Government find it desirable to do so ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : Yes.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : May I know what that provision is ?

PRESIDENT : That is to say, how many months' notice ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : It is about the new contract that the member wants information ?

PRESIDENT : Has that been executed ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : Not yet. It will come into force shortly.

PRESIDENT : Have you a copy of the contract please ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : Yes, Sir.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tocala*) : In answer to the previous question the expenditure amounts to Rs. 14,000 odd. In answer to the present question the revenue amounts to Rs. 13,000. Taking the two together, it results in a loss. May I know what are the special data for Government to justify the continuance of the appointment of the Trade Agent when there is a clear loss ?

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PRESIDENT: Rs. 13,000 referred to by you has not yet come into the coffers of the Travancore Government. It merely indicates the value of orders that the Agent was able to secure from the merchants. Under the circumstances, what is meant by the loss referred to by you?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): The value of orders secured by the Agent is only very small and so is it not a loss for our Government?

PRESIDENT: Is it your point that the expenditure is not in proportion to the extent of the value of orders secured by the Agent?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Thank you, Sir. May I know what is the justification for continuing the arrangement with the Trade Agent at Bombay?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): From the very fact that Government have entered into a new agreement with the Agent thereby reducing his salary, it is expected that he will naturally take more interest in increasing the value of orders hereafter.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will a reduction of salary give an impetus for the Trade Agent to secure more orders?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): That is a matter of opinion.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether Government have tried whether he is prepared to accept this salary and work in that basis?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): No.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it on the report of the Trade Agent Government got the figure in answer to part (c)?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether his statement was got verified by Government?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): We may be sending our auditor in course of time to verify that.

MR. M. K. JANARDANA KAMMATH (*Commerce and Industry, North*): May I know whether the Agent has received his T. A.?

MR N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): I have no information.

MR. M. K. JANARDANA KAMMATH (*Commerce and Industry, North*): May I know whether the Trade Agent during his tour met any of the representatives of commerce and industry?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): I do not know, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): In the agreement to be executed, is there any provision to guarantee against any loss owing to misappropriation of the goods that are entrusted to the Trade Agent?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Has he given any security?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): He will be held liable for loss of goods.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether Government have ascertained his solvency ?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*) : Yes.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*) : Is it compulsory for the Trade Agent under the agreement to get orders for Travancore goods ?

PRESIDENT : He is appointed for that purpose.

Advisory Committee on agricultural matters.

105. ***MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla III*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Director of Agriculture has recommended to Government the constitution of a Committee to advise the Department on matters of agricultural improvements in this State and

(*b*) the action taken by Government on such recommendations ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Seretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government propose to sanction the recommendation of the Director.

MR. T. P. VELYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know the nature of the recommendations that Government propose to sanction ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : They propose to appoint a committee consisting of officials and non-officials to advise the department about the new schemes to be worked out.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : What are the functions of the Committee ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : To advise and to suggest problems for research.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know the strength of the Committee proposed ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The Director has suggested a Committee consisting of 15 non-officials and some officers of the Department.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry I*) : As decided by the Government, what is the strength of the Committee ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Government have not decided about the strength of the Committee. Provision for T. A. is made in the budget; and if it is passed by the legislature, then further steps will be taken ?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry I*) : Will the suggestion be placed before the House ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No. Sanction for the T. A. is placed before the House.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*) : Has the Economic Development Board anything to do with the Agricultural Department at present ?

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